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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/786,204	02/24/2004	Manish Kumar Mathur	2060/US/2	3031
20686	7590	02/28/2006		
DORSEY & WHITNEY, LLP INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT 370 SEVENTEENTH STREET SUITE 4700 DENVER, CO 80202-5647			EXAMINER CHO, JAMES HYONCHOL	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2819	

DATE MAILED: 02/28/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

21/

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/786,204	<b>Applicant(s)</b> MATHUR ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> James Cho	<b>Art Unit</b> 2819	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,4 and 6-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 4 and 6-11 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

### DETAILED ACTION

Receipt is acknowledged of the Amendment filed 12-1-2005.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-2 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Mathur et al. (US PAT No. 6,842,320).

Regarding claims 1 and 12, Figs. 2-3 of Mathur et al. teaches an integrated circuit/a method of operating the input buffer, comprising: at least one pad (AP, AN) receiving at least one input signal (data signal); a core (circuit coupled to PAD is inherently required); and at least one input buffer circuit (Fig. 2) coupled between the pad and the core, the input buffer having a first mode (operating as a driver by itself; col. 5, lines 11-18) where the input buffer circuit operates as an inverter (MP1 and MN2 comprises an inverter), and a second mode (hot insertion mode; col. 7, line 47 - col. 8, line 25) wherein the input buffer circuit limits the voltage levels within the input buffer (MP2 and MN1 provides protection; col. 8, lines 15-25) where the second mode includes a live-insertion mode (col. 8, line 15) where a supply voltage is not applied to the input buffer circuit (MP1 is turned off during live-insertion by MN19 in Fig. 2; col. 7,

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47-50) and an input signal is applied to the at least one pad (MP19 provides  $V_{pad} - 2V_t$  to the gate of MP1).

Regarding claim 2, Figs 2-3 of Mathur et al. teaches the integrated circuit of claim 19, wherein the first mode includes a normal mode where a supply voltage is applied to the input buffer circuit ( $V_{dd}$  is applied when AP is logic low during normal mode).

***Allowable Subject Matter***

Claims 4 and 6-11 are allowable over the prior art of record.

The statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter has provided in the Office action mailed 9-1-2005.

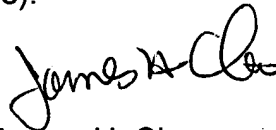
***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Cho whose telephone number is 571-272-1802. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday 5:30 AM - 4:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rexford Barnie can be reached on 571-272-7492. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James H. Cho", is positioned above the printed name.

James H. Cho  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2819

2-21-2006